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OASD DPMO	
Date Received	29 Feb 08
Watch Officer	R
Distro	Act / Info
Director	_____
Deputy Dir	_____
Chief of Staff	_____
Exec Asst	_____
Gen Counsel	_____
Pol/Plns	_____
Res/Analyst	_____
Jt Comm Spt	_____
Ref/DOC	_____
Ext Affairs	_____
Resource Mgmt	_____
<i>Serlenton: O-Analyst</i>	_____
<i>Cima</i>	_____
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R 290022Z FEB 08

FM JPAC ANNEX CAMP SMITH HI

TO ZEN/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

INFO RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC

RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC

RHEFLGX/SAFE WASHINGTON DC

RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC

ZEN/CDR USPACOM LO WASHINGTON DC

ZEN/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//DPMO//

ZEN/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI

ZEN/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC

ZEN/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

ZEN/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC

BT

CONTROLS

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SUBJ: TRANSLATION AND ANALYSIS REPORT CASE 1488 CONDUCTED DURING THE 12TH LAO UNILATERAL PERIOD IN DECEMBER 2006.

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SUBJ/TRANSLATION AND ANALYSIS REPORT CASE 1488 CONDUCTED DURING THE 12TH LAO UNILATERAL PERIOD IN DECEMBER 2006.

REF/A/JPAC ANNEX CAMP SMITH HI(UC)/111937Z APR 07.

AMPN/1. REFERENCE A IS THE EXCAVATION SUMMARY REPORT OF CASE 1488 (SITE LA 00392) CONDUCTED DURING THE 97TH JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY (JFA 07-2LA) IN THE LAO PEOPLES' DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (LPDR).

BODY

RMKS/2. IN JANUARY 2007, FOLLOWING THE 12TH UNILATERAL ITERATION, THE LAO UNILATERAL INVESTIGATION TEAM PROVIDED 12 REPORTS OF INVESTIGATION DETAILING THE RESULTS OF THEIR DECEMBER 2006 INVESTIGATIONS OF EIGHT LOSS INCIDENTS IN THE LPDR. ONE OF THESE REPORTS CONCERNS CASE 1488.

3. THE LAO UNILATERAL TEAM PROVIDED A ONE PAGE REPORT LABELED CASE 1488.

4. CASE BACKGROUND: ON 11 SEPTEMBER 1969 CAPTAIN HELWIG (PILOT) AND CAPTAIN STEARNS (PILOT SYSTEMS OPERATOR) WERE THE CREW OF AN F 4D ON A VISUAL RECONNAISSANCE AND FORWARD AIR CONTROL MISSION OVER LAOS. THE CREW WAS DIRECTING AIRSTRIKES AGAINST TARGETS WHEN THEY ROLLED IN ON A MARKING PASS, FIRED A ROCKET, AND INITIATED A PULL-OUT. HOWEVER, THE AIRCRAFT THEN BEGAN A DESCENDING ROLL TO THE RIGHT AND

Y Helwig, R.D. 1488  
AF Stearns, R.H.

Reviewed by DPMO

IAW 50 USC 435 Note &

DOD 5400.7-R Date 13-Mar-2008

Initialed By: R. W.

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CRASHED APPROXIMATELY 200-500 FEET BEYOND THE TARGET, AND EXPLODED IN A FIREBALL. A BADLY DAMAGED PARACHUTE, WITH A SEPARATE PORTION OF A PARACHUTE WAS SEEN HANGING IN A TREE, ALONG A STREAMBED APPROXIMATELY 75 METERS NORTH OF THE CRASH SITE. ON JFA 90-4L, A JOINT TEAM EXCAVATED THE CRASH SITE AND RECOVERED REMAINS. THE REMAINS WERE IDENTIFIED IN NOVEMBER 1990 AS CAPTAIN STEARNS. REMAINS FOR CAPTAIN HELWIG HAVE NOT BEEN FOUND.

5. UNILATERAL REQUIREMENT: JPAC DID NOT SCHEDULE THIS UNILATERAL INVESTIGATION.
6. THE SUBJECT REPORT CONSISTS OF ONE PAGE EACH. TRANSLATION IS PRESENTED BELOW. TRANSLATOR/ANALYST COMMENTS APPEAR WITHIN DOUBLE PARENTHESES.

((BEGIN TRANSLATION/INTERPOLATION))

REPORT 12TH UNILATERAL INVESTIGATIONS 2006 BETWEEN 11 25 DECEMBER 2006

DATE: JANUARY 7, 2007

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW CONCERNING CASE 1488

BACKGROUND: DURING DECEMBER 11-25, 2006. THE LAO UNILATERAL INVESTIGATION TEAM RECEIVED TASKING FROM THE LAO GOVERNMENT TO A CONDUCT THE UNILATERAL INVESTIGATION. OUR TEAM INTERVIEWED MR. MANLEUN, A RESIDENT OF BAN ((LAO WORD FOR VILLAGE)) KENGLUANG, MUANG ((LAO WORD FOR DISTRICT)) XEPON, SAVANNAKHET PROVINCE.

WITNESS INFORMATION: MR. MANLEUN, 65 YOA, BAN KENGLUANG, MUANG XEPON, SAVANNAKHET PROVINCE.

WITNESS TESTIMONY: HE WAS OUT FORAGING IN 1968 AND FOUND CLOTHING, A LOWER JAW WITH TEETH AND A SKULL NEAR THE STREAM AT BAN ADON. THIS AREA WAS APPROXIMATELY 200 METERS NORTH OF THE CASE 1488 CRASH SITE ((CASE NUMBER PROVIDED BY THE LAO TEAM)). OUR TEAM ASKED THE WITNESS TO POINT OUT THIS LOCATION, WHICH WAS APPROXIMATELY FIVE METERS FROM THE STREAM. HE BELIEVES THAT SOME BONES MAY HAVE BEEN LOST IN THE WATER AND BURIED UNDER THE ROCKS. OUR TEAM BELIEVES THAT THIS INCIDENT MAY CORRELATE TO CASE 1488.

RECOMMENDATION: CONTINUE WITH UNILATERAL INVESTIGATION AND JOINT INVESTIGATION.

OFFICIALS:

MR. SAVAD DAVONGSONE (MFA)

MR. KONGMY SOUKSOTHSAY (MFA)

MAJ SOMPHONG SANGKHISAVATH (MND)

LTC KHAMFONE CHALEUNPHONMIXAY (MND)

REPORTS:

CPT SOMCHAI XAYCHALEUN (MND)

((END TRANSLATION/INTERPOLATION))

7. EVALUATION: THE INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT CORRELATES WITH CASE 1488. THE AREA WHERE THE WITNESS REPORTEDLY SAW REMAINS WAS 200 METERS OUTSIDE THE AREAS OF THE SITE EXCAVATED ON THE THREE JFAS PRIOR TO DECEMBER 2006.

8. RECOMMENDATION: A JOINT RECOVERY TEAM RE-INTERVIEWED THIS WITNESS AND EXCAVATED THE REPORTED AREA DURING JFA 07-2LA (REF A). THE RT RECOVERED NO SIGNIFICANT EVIDENCE FROM THE WITNESS IDENTIFIED AREA.

9. EVALUATION:  ..... (b)(3)  
ADMIN (b)(6)  
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